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COMMITTEE PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES RELATING TO REDISTRICTING

The Assembly Committee on Elections, Reapportionment and Constitutional Amendments wishes to ensure that the public have the opportunity to effectively participate in an orderly and fair redistricting that results in representation for all communities in the state and compliance with all governing state and federal law. The Committee seeks and encourages public participation in all aspects of redistricting and the widest range of public input into the deliberations relating to redistricting. To this end, the Committee will do all of the following:

1. Arrange that the statewide demographic database that is to be used for redistricting and that is maintained under the auspices of the Institute of Governmental Studies at the University of California at Berkeley will be available to the public at nominal cost by May 1, 2001.
2. Hold a public hearing regarding the procedures for considering bills and proposals relating to the redistricting process.
3. Promulgate procedures for public submission of comments, recommendations and proposed redistricting plans.
4. Establish a website on which information pertaining to Committee redistricting proceedings will be published and through which comments, recommendations and proposed plans can be submitted free of charge.

5. Hold public hearings throughout the state for the purpose of receiving public input with regard to redistricting from all sectors of the public as follows:
 - A. Hold at least eight (8) hearings around the state by July 27, 2001, with all interested parties encouraged to submit comments, recommendations and proposed plans relating to redistricting.
 - B. In order to ensure participation at these regional hearings, at least one week in advance of each hearing, do all of the following:
 - (1) Provide news releases to newspapers that substantially serve the region covered by the hearing, including newspapers that serve the ethnic, racial, or language minority communities within the region, and to other major newspapers in the state.
 - (2) Provide news releases to all electronic news media that substantially broadcast in the region covered by the hearing.
 - (3) Provide written notice to all groups and organizations that have appeared before, or communicated with, the committee regarding redistricting.
 - (4) Provide written notice to any citizen or organization that contacts the committee and requests notice of any of these hearings, and maintain a list of these individuals and organizations.
 - (5) Publish notice on the Committee's website.
 - (6) Invite individuals, groups and organizations in need of translators to bring an appropriate translator to the hearing.

- C. Hold at least two (2) days of hearings on legislatively proposed redistricting plans prior to the final passage of any redistricting bill or conference committee report on a redistricting bill. Hearings held by another appropriate legislative committee will be sufficient to satisfy this guideline. In order to ensure participation at hearings held by the Committee, do all of the following:
- (1) As far in advance of the hearing as is reasonably possible, and in any event, at least one day before the hearing, provide notice as set forth in sections B (1) through (5) above.
 - (2) Arrange for satellite transmission of the hearings that will allow communication to and from sites throughout the State.
 - (3) Take reasonable steps to accommodate translation needs.
6. Produce maps of the final bills for the public, as required by law, and including statewide and district maps.
 7. Provide transcripts of all hearings at public locations throughout the state, and post them on the Committee website.
 8. Produce analyses of all bills relating to redistricting. Analyses shall include clear map depictions and statistical information and analysis relating to the bill's compliance with legal standards that govern redistricting.